

File

June 20, 1985

TO: Coal File, Inspection and Enforcement Folder
FROM: David Lof, Mining Field Specialist *TW for D.L.*
RE: Co-Op Mining Company, Bear Canyon Mine, ACT/015/025, Folder #7, Emery County, Utah

A partial inspection was conducted at the above mentioned mine site on May 31, 1985.

Hiawatha Seam Portal, NOV N85-4-8-2, #1 of 2

This violation was issued on March 12, 1985 for the development of a pad for access to the Hiawatha seam. The operator was required to cease all activities on the pad and slopes effected by the pad development immediately. In addition the operator was required to submit complete plans to the Division for approval of the pad development by March 27, 1985.

On April 1, 1985, the Division received plans for the operator's proposed development of the Hiawatha seam pad. On April 23, 1985, the Division sent the operator a letter directing the operator not to proceed with any activity in the Hiawatha seam except for; sealing the portal, and regrading the area to the approximate original contour, and reseeding the area by May 17, 1985.

On May 14, 1985, the Division sent a letter to the operator revising the time schedule for the operator's completion of the abatement measures set forth in the Division's April 23, 1985 letter. The deadlines are as follows:

- A. Seal the portal entrance by May 17, 1985.
- B. Regrade the pad area to the approximate original contour, and mulch and tackify the area by June 10, 1985.
- C. Seed the area between September 15, 1985 and October 15, 1985.

At the time of this inspection, I inspected the Hiawatha seam pad and portal, there had been no work done on the pad itself since my last inspection. However, the operator had sealed the portal entrance with concrete blocks and mortar. The seal was at the face of the portal entrance. The operator had constructed the seal with the water hose, which was mentioned in previous inspection memos passing through the seal. I could not determine whether, or not, the operator had constructed the wall two blocks thick, nor if the seal had been recessed into the rib and floor as per the portal sealing plans in Co-Op's MRP on pages 3-87 and 3-88.

According to UMC 817.15 which are the regulations governing permanent casing and sealing of underground openings the Division differs to MSHA, Regulations (30 DFR 75.1711) as to how the seals will actually be constructed. Because of this, MSHA inspectors will

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be contacted to insure that the operator has constructed the seals in accordance with their regulations.

Mine Water Discharge, NOV N85-4-13-1

This violation was issued on April 23, 1985 for the operator's discharging of mine water to the sediment pond without approval. The operator was required to stop discharging water from the mine immediately, and to submit complete plans to the Division for the permitting of mine water discharge to the surface by June 8, 1985.

New Truck Loading Facilities, N85-4-18-1

During the course of my inspection, I noticed construction activities taking place on the coal stockpile pad. It appeared that the operator was in the process of constructing their new truck loadout and stacking tube facilities. At that time, they had almost completed the excavation for the conveyor tunnel from where the base of the base of the new stacking tube will be to the truck loadout.

To my knowledge the operator did not have approval to proceed with these activities therefore, I went to the scale house offices at the mine site and tried to contact Wendell Owen who was not available at that time. I then called the Division offices and spoke with Permit Supervisor, John Whitehead, who is responsible for reviewing the operator's Bear Canyon Permit. He informed me that the Division had sent the operator a deficiency letter on March 29, 1985, and that a response to that letter had not been received.

Because the operator did not have approval to construct the stacking tube and loadout facilities Notice of Violation N85-4-18-1 was issued, it reads as follows:

Nature of the Violation

Conducting underground mining activities without Division approval.

Provisions of the Regulations, Act, or Permit Violated

UCA 40-10-9
UMC 771.19

Portion of the Operation to Which Notice Applies

Construction of new stacking tube

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Remedial Action Required

Cease all construction activities associated with the new stacking tube until written approval is received from the Division.

Time for Abatement

Immediately

The notice was served the clerk at the scalehouse.

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cc: Donna Griffin, OSM
Mel Coonrod, Co-Op Mining Company
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
John Whitehead, DOGM

Statistics: See Soldier Canyon Mine memo dated June 18, 1985

0243Q-40-42